

Program Narrative

Item #1

Area Broadcast Communication

Purpose: Provide the Rapid City Police Department & Pennington County Sheriff's Office with an enhanced digital radio system, which will provide state-of-the-art communications and the associated system for both agencies service areas.

Justification: The Rapid City Police Department and Pennington County Sheriff's Office, have been working jointly to update and purchase new radio equipment for both agencies. By utilizing the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, number **2009-H1296-SD-DJ** we will be able to move closer toward the ultimate goal of a well-equipped and operational digital radio system. With that in mind, the following information is being provided for this purpose.

The grant funding is requested to update and upgrade the Rapid City Police Department's and Pennington County Sheriff's Office radio system allowing them to progress to the required digital radio system. Currently, there is one primary site on which the State has boosted the systems capability to six voice repeaters. As specified in our Recovery JAG Grant, the departments have been conducting real-world tests to find where the system falls short and ensure agency needs are met. Tests showed the system would work, however with the additional load caused by the Rapid City Police Department coming on-line, personnel encountered a loss of access during peak usage times. As such, we need to add two additional voice repeaters, which effectively add four additional channels to the law enforcement system, thus adding the needed capacity. This improvement is to handle radio traffic, and resolve those issues along with allowing for additional agency talk groups on the system, thus lessening or eliminating the loss of system access during these peak periods.

The two additional voice repeaters will be attached directly to the current State Digital System through the use of a "combiner," which allows the additional repeaters to function with the six currently in use for the area. This will be accomplished in conjunction with the State of South Dakota by utilizing the State's Radio System engineering process. This overall engineering of the system for Rapid City/Pennington County is currently in progress to ensure a seamless process and to achieve the best possible results. Because the overall digital system is a State System, the repeaters purchased by the Rapid City Police Department and Pennington County Sheriff's Office will be directly attached with the previously mentioned State System and be signed over to the State of South Dakota. Although they will continue to be utilized by both agencies, the State handles the continual upkeep and maintenance of the radio system.

Our intent is to utilize the majority of this funding, approximately \$88,480 toward the purchase of the two voice repeaters.

Item #2

In-Car Video Equipment

Purpose:

The Rapid City Police Department and Pennington County Sheriff's Office, have been working on a joint project to update and purchase new in-car digital video equipment for both agencies. With that in mind, the following information is being provided for this purpose.

Through our combined efforts with the Pennington County Sheriff's office, we have purchased a new In-Car Video system. This is a completely digital system with flash card storage in each system. The system includes wireless download capability into dedicated system servers. The main computer/server has automated DVD reproduction, thus allowing for proper chain-of-custody, reporting, and automated archiving. Our initial purchase for this system was the actual hardware itself and enough digital video units for the Sheriff's Office and Rapid City Police Department to outfit each patrol vehicle with this system. The approximate cost of each in-car unit is \$5000.00. A sole-source vendor for this equipment, due to the prior initiation of the project is a company named L-3 Communications Mobile-Vision, Inc.

Both Departments have enough to outfit the Patrol fleets, however as mechanical issues arise, and non-functioning video equipment needs repair or parts replacement, the vehicles are left without the technology. This does not serve the agency needs, or the Courts or the Citizens of this area properly. As such, we plan to purchase four additional units, two for each agency to utilize as replacements as needed, to keep all fleet vehicles with serviceable digital cameras at all times.

Our intent is to utilize a small percent of the **2009-H1296-SD-DJ grant**, approximately \$20,000 to purchase at least four more in-car video cameras.